

"GOD DELIGHTS IN USING HIS PEOPLE TO BLESS AND MEET THE NEEDS OF OTHER PEOPLE."

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12NOW THE DAY BEGAN TO WEAR AWAY, AND THE TWELVE CAME AND SAID TO HIM, "SEND THE CROWD AWAY TO GO INTO THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES AND COUNTRYSIDE TO FIND LODGING AND GET PROVISIONS, FOR WE ARE HERE IN A DESOLATE PLACE."

13BUT HE SAID TO THEM, "YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT." THEY SAID, "WE HAVE NO MORE THAN FIVE LOAVES AND TWO FISH—UNLESS WE ARE TO GO AND BUY FOOD FOR ALL THESE PEOPLE." 14FOR THERE WERE ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND MEN. AND HE SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, "HAVE THEM SIT DOWN IN GROUPS OF ABOUT FIFTY EACH." 15AND THEY DID SO, AND HAD THEM ALL SIT DOWN. 16AND TAKING THE FIVE LOAVES AND THE TWO FISH, HE LOOKED UP TO HEAVEN AND SAID A BLESSING OVER THEM.

THEN HE BROKE THE LOAVES AND GAVE THEM TO THE DISCIPLES
TO SET BEFORE THE CROWD. 17AND THEY ALL ATE AND
WERE SATISFIED. AND WHAT WAS LEFT OVER WAS PICKED UP,
TWELVE BASKETS OF BROKEN PIECES. 18NOW IT HAPPENED THAT
AS HE WAS PRAYING ALONE, THE DISCIPLES WERE WITH HIM.
AND HE ASKED THEM, "WHO DO THE CROWDS SAY THAT I AM?"
19AND THEY ANSWERED, "JOHN THE BAPTIST. BUT OTHERS SAY,
ELIJAH, AND OTHERS, THAT ONE OF THE PROPHETS OF OLD
HAS RISEN." 20THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "BUT WHO DO YOU SAY
THAT I AM?" AND PETER ANSWERED, "THE CHRIST OF GOD."
21AND HE STRICTLY CHARGED AND COMMANDED THEM
TO TELL THIS TO NO ONE. —LUKE 9:12-21

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#### I. DIVINE COMPASSION

JESUS SEES AND KNOWS OUR NEED TODAY

WHEN HE WENT ASHORE HE SAW A GREAT CROWD,
AND HE HAD COMPASSION ON THEM, BECAUSE THEY WERE
LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD. AND HE BEGAN
TO TEACH THEM MANY THINGS. —MARK 6:34

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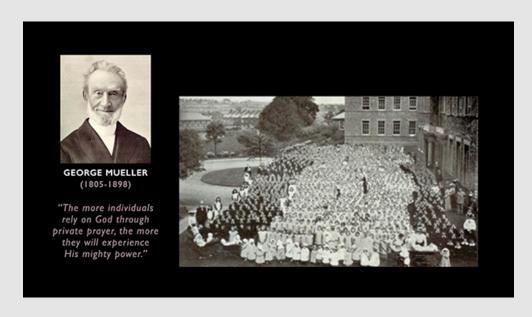
"BUT WHILE OUR LORD'S MIRACULOUS FEEDING
OF THE MULTITUDE IS AN ASTOUNDING DISPLAY
OF HIS DIVINE POWER, IT IS FAR MORE THAN THAT.
AS WITH ALL THE MIRACLES JESUS PERFORMED,
THIS ONE IS ALSO A DEMONSTRATION OF GOD'S TENDER,
COMPASSIONATE CARE, SHOWING THAT HIS POWER
CANNOT BE DIVORCED FROM HIS COMPASSION.
THIS MIRACULOUS PROVISION OF FOOD
ON A MASSIVE SCALE IS A STRIKING EXHIBITION
OF GOD'S CONCERN FOR EVEN THE MOST
MUNDANE ISSUES OF LIFE."—JOHN MACARTHUR

## 2. DIVINE EXPECTATION

JESUS INVITES AND INSTRUCTS US TO MEET
THE NEEDS OF OTHERS

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\*ONE OF HIS DISCIPLES, ANDREW, SIMON PETER'S BROTHER,
SAID TO HIM, "THERE IS A BOY HERE
WHO HAS FIVE BARLEY LOAVES AND TWO FISH,
BUT WHAT ARE THEY FOR SO MANY?" —JOHN 6:8-9



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IAND HE CALLED THE TWELVE TOGETHER AND GAVE THEM POWER AND AUTHORITY OVER ALL DEMONS AND TO CURE DISEASES,

2AND HE SENT THEM OUT TO PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND TO HEAL...

10ON THEIR RETURN THE APOSTLES TOLD HIM ALL THAT THEY HAD DONE. AND HE TOOK THEM AND WITHDREW APART TO A TOWN CALLED BETHSAIDA.

—LUKE 9:1-2, 10

HE WHO SUPPLIES SEED TO THE SOWER AND BREAD FOR FOOD WILL SUPPLY AND MULTIPLY YOUR SEED FOR SOWING AND INCREASE THE HARVEST OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

—2 CORINTHIANS 9:10

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# "HERE, FOR YOU!"

### 3. DIVINE SATISFACTION

JESUS ALWAYS PROVIDES ENOUGH AND EVEN MORE THAN WE EXPECT

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"THE ENTIRE BIBLICAL NARRATIVE IS ABOUT GOD'S PROVIDING FOR HIS PEOPLE. JESUS IS THE MANNA OF GOD, THE BREAD THAT TAKES US FROM SPIRITUAL DEATH TO SPIRITUAL LIFE.

HE IS THE MANNA THAT WILL END YOUR HUNGER FOREVER. THE BREAD FOR THE CROWD IS A SIGN TO POINT THEM—AND US—TO HOW THEIR DEEPER HUNGER CAN BE SATISFIED.

THE STORY OF THE BIBLE IS ABOUT HUNGER AND BREAD. ONLY JESUS SATISFIES." —PAUL DAVID TRIPP

### JESUS ALONE PROVIDES...

- PEACE IN THE MIDST OF FEAR
- COMFORT IN THE PRESENCE OF GRIEF
- HOPE WHEN EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE FALLING APART
- JOY WHEN LIFE THROWS US A CURVE BALL
- LOVE WHEN WE FEEL UNLOVABLE
- SALVATION EVEN WHEN WE DON'T DESERVE IT

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II... SO MEPHIBOSHETH ATE
AT DAVID'S TABLE,
LIKE ONE OF THE KING'S SONS.
IZAND MEPHIBOSHETH HAD
A YOUNG SON, WHOSE NAME
WAS MICA. AND ALL
WHO LIVED IN ZIBA'S HOUSE
BECAME MEPHIBOSHETH'S
SERVANTS. IZSO
MEPHIBOSHETH LIVED IN
JERUSALEM, FOR HE ATE
ALWAYS AT THE KING'S TABLE.
NOW HE WAS LAME
IN BOTH HIS FEET.
—2 SAMUEL 9:11b-13

"THE GOODNESS OF GOD IS INFINITELY MORE WONDERFUL THAN WE WILL EVER BE ABLE TO COMPREHEND."

—A.W. TOZER

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